Garamendi Lends a Hand in Honduras

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Araceli Martinez (translation by Garamendi staff)

SACRAMENTO – The Lt. Governor John Garamendi and his wife Patti will travel to Honduras the 6 to the 10th of December to help those in need after the recent floods that swept through the Central American country.

Garamendi who will be visiting Honduras for the first time will bring with him 40,000 pounds of rice grown in California which was donated by the Rice Farmers Cooperative.

The Lt. Governor commented to La Opinion that he will also be present at the opening of a hospital clinic that was built in the city of Ciriboya with support from several California companies.

"It gives me great pleasure to be able to help the Hondurans because international relations are a very important part of my job as Lt. Governor" he said.

Although this will be his first trip to Honduras, his wife Patti and their daughter Elizabeth, as active members of the Peace Corps, have been involved in helping this country for several years in working to eliminate hunger.

Patti, the wife of the Lt. Governor, was part of the team that the federal government sent to Honduras to help the population recuperate from the devastating effects of hurricane Mitch that destroyed the Atlantic Coast in 1998.

The Lt. Governor and his wife Patti have participated as volunteers for more than 40 years as

volunteers for the Peace Corps in countries like Ethiopia and Eritrea in Africa.

Garamendi plans to make many more trips to strengthen relations between California and Latin America.

"I would especially like to travel more to Mexico because it is of great commercial importance to California."

A few months ago the Lt. Governor was in Mexicali, Baja California during the inauguration of the new governor. The visit to Honduras will be his second mission to Latin America as Lt. Governor.